

TIMES AND TRAILS

People, Projects and Priorities at Environment and Conservation

Volume 2, No. 10

Special Edition August 2005

Environment and Conservation employees:

Over the past week I have recognized some of Tennessee's most outstanding environmental stewards – people and organizations working diligently and effectively to conserve and protect our natural resources.

I was in Vonore (Monroe County) on Wednesday presenting a Tennessee Pollution Prevention Partnership (TP3) Green Flag to Tennessee Koyo Steering Systems for achieving Performer level status. Koyo is just the 5th company in Tennessee to reach this highest-level status. It was a real pleasure to celebrate Koyo's accomplishments in pollution prevention and environmental outreach with their staff and management.



Commissioner Jim Fyke

The department hosted the 2005 Tennessee Environmental Stewardship Awards celebration event last Friday at the Adventure Science Center in Nashville. The Tennessee Environmental Stewardship Awards recognizes outstanding voluntary efforts to improve the environment and protect our natural resources. This program is one of our department's most important activities.

This year a distinguished panel of judges selected 12 winners in different Stewardship Award categories. We had winners across the state – from Lexington to Morristown; from western tributaries of the Tennessee River to the banks of Fort Loudoun Lake in Knoxville.

These winners were large – representing big multi-national companies and one of the largest power producers in the country – and small – nimble local firms and partnerships who have successfully executed major turnarounds. All had one thing in common: there was a committed group of individuals who produced a record of real environmental achievement.

One of the most rewarding aspects of the event was the recognition of outstanding environmental results at Tennessee State Parks. It was great to see a state-wide award in aquatic resource preservation presented to Panther Creek State Park and to honor Randy Whitworth of Henry Horton State Park for his exemplary work with native species introduction and exotic plant removal. Throughout the event I was reminded of how much good we can get done as Environment *and* Conservation. Working together, we can care for our natural resources in a way that will create a place where all our citizens can fulfill their greatest potential and live in a healthy and protected environment.

Congratulations to all the 2005 Tennessee Environmental Stewardship Award winners.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim".

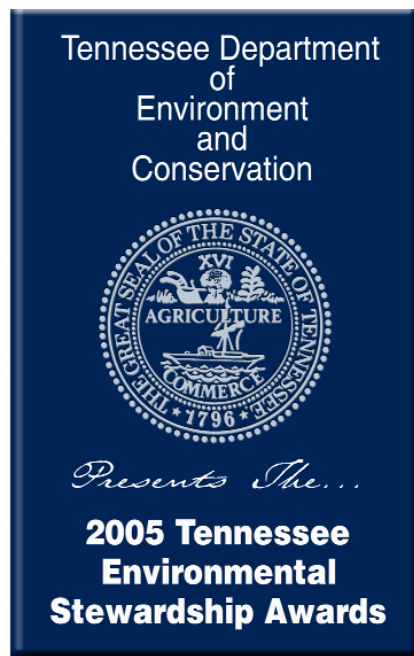
Published by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

www.tdec.net

Environment and Conservation Commissioner Jim Fyke presented the 2005 Tennessee Environmental Stewardship Awards to 12 recipients on July 29, 2005, including individuals, community organizations, businesses and government agencies whose achievements were recognized for their stewardship of the state's natural resources.

"The honorees demonstrate how individuals and organizations large and small can really make a difference and help assure the quality of life we all want and expect in Tennessee," said Governor Phil Bredesen. "I want to express my congratulations to each of these environmental leaders and express my thanks for their commitment to pollution prevention and stewardship of our natural resources."

The Tennessee Environmental Stewardship Awards program recognizes exemplary voluntary actions



that improve or protect our environment and natural resources with projects or initiatives that are not required by law or regulation. A panel of judges representing agricultural, conservation, forestry, environmental and academic professionals selected 12 award recipients from 47 well-deserving nominations. The awards ceremony was held at the Adventure Science Center in Nashville, Tenn.

"We all have an important role to play in creating cleaner air, purer water and better protected land for Tennessee," said Commissioner Fyke. "I am pleased that we have this opportunity to honor the individuals and organizations whose achievements represent a model of effective stewardship for our state."

For complete details of the 2005 Environmental Stewardship Awards please go our Web site:

www.state.tn.us/environment/awards/winners.php

Over the past year several changes have been made to the Environmental Stewardship Awards Program and process. In previous years, there was often more than 20 award categories. This year a team of experts helped us determine the types of award categories that would be most meaningful and reflective of the department's priorities. Leaning on this expert advice, we restructured the awards to include just 12 categories. By narrowing down the number of categories, we are able to place more emphasis on achievement and recognition instead of recognition alone.

As a reflection of these changes, it was appropriate to have a new design for the awards. This year, the award was made made out of recycled glass. This change was enthusiastically received by the winners and participants at the event.

For information about the 2006 Environmental Stewardship Awards, please visit our Web site at: <http://www.state.tn.us/environment/awards/>

The 2005 Environmental Stewardship Award winners

Governor's Award for Excellence in Greenways Stewardship

Metro Nashville Greenways Program

Excellence in Agriculture and Forestry Award

Tennessee Partners Project

Excellence in Aquatic Resource Preservation Award

Panther Creek State Park

Excellence in Energy Leadership Award

TVA Green Power Switch and Generation Partners

Excellence in Environmental Education and Outreach Award

Knoxville/Knox County CAC AmeriCorps

Excellence in Natural Heritage Conservation Award

The Tennessee Nature Conservancy

Excellence in Parks and Recreation Award

Randy Whitworth, Henry Horton State Park

Excellence in Pollution Prevention Award

Valley Proteins, LLC

Governor's Award for Excellence in Hazardous Waste Management

Small Generator: Portion Pac, Inc.

Large Generator: Volvo Penta Marine, LLC

Large Generator: Olin Chlor Alkali, Inc.

Robert Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award

Gary Myers, Executive Director, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency



Approximately 100 people attended the 2005 Environmental Stewardship Awards ceremony held in Nashville at the Adventure Science Museum's Jack L. Wood Hall. Tennessee State Parks provided refreshments for the event.

Commissioner Jim Fyke, Jason Chadwell, Park Ranger, Panther Creek State Park and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.



Commissioner Jim Fyke addresses the audience at the 2005 Environmental Stewardship Awards ceremony.

Governor's Award for Excellence in Greenways Stewardship



L-R: Greenways Commission Chair John Norris, Commissioner Jim Fyke, Metro Nashville Greenways Program Director Shain Dennison and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Excellence in Agriculture and Forestry Award



Commissioner Jim Fyke, Tim Willis, Tennessee Partners Project, and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Excellence in Aquatic Resource Preservation Award



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People, Projects and Priorities

Excellence in Energy Leadership Award



Commissioner Jim Fyke and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan with Jim Keiffer, Senior Vice President of Marketing, Tennessee Valley Authority.

Excellence in Environmental Education and Outreach Award



Commissioner Jim Fyke, John Harris, Program Director of the Knoxville/Knox County Community Action Committee AmeriCorps and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Excellence in Natural Heritage Conservation Award



Commissioner Jim Fyke with The Tennessee Nature Conservancy Associate State Directors, Gina Hancock and Gabby Call and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Excellence in Parks and Recreation Award



Randy Whitworth, Park Manager, Henry Horton State Park with Commissioner Jim Fyke and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Excellence in Pollution Prevention Award



Commissioner Jim Fyke, Charlie Little, General Manager, Valley Proteins and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Robert Sparks Walker Lifetime Achievement Award



Commissioner Jim Fyke, Gary Myers, Executive Director, Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency and Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan.

Governor's Award for Excellence in Hazardous Waste Management Awards



Nick Borski from Portion Pac with Commissioner Jim Fyke.



Representative from Olin Corporation with Commissioner Jim Fyke.



Richard Stewart, Senior Environmental Engineer, Volvo Penta Marine and Commissioner Jim Fyke.

Winners of the Governor's Award for Excellence in Hazardous Waste Management received their awards at the 34th Annual Solid and Hazardous Waste Conference in Gatlinburg in May. They were also formally recognized by Commissioner Fyke and Deputy Commissioner Sloan at the Nashville event.

Times and Trails



L-R: Lori Munkeboe, director of the Office of Environmental Assistance, Debbie Mann, Grants and Awards and Don Green, Cumberland River Compact.



Musical entertainment was provided by Bob Fulcher, Park Manager of Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail and Joseph Decosimo who is working for the second summer on the Cumberland Trail as a folklorist and Trail Crew Leader.



L-R: Steve Falter, Human Resource Manager, Portion Pac, Nick Borski, Environmental Coordinator, Portion Pac and Eric Ingram, Safety Manager, Portion Pac.

People, Projects and Priorities



Refreshments and outstanding service were provided by Montgomery Bell State Park service staff (L-R): Henry Kendall, Kelly Hosie, Donna Lewis and Winnie Thomas.



Tracy Carter, Senior Director for Air Resources and Vaughn Cassidy, Environmental Coordinator, Jackson Environmental Field Office.



Bob Brown, Botanist, Governor's Greenways Commission, Deputy Commissioner Paul Sloan and Bob Fulcher, Park Manager, Cumberland Trail State Scenic Trail.